Public Laws : Bill / Senate/106th Congress/1st Session/1999/File 3

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II

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1529

To amend title XVIII to expand the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission to 19 members and to include on such commission individuals with national recognition for their expertise in manufacturing and distributing finished medical goods.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 5, 1999

Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. ROBB) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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A BILL

To amend title XVIII to expand the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission to 19 members and to include on such commission individuals with national recognition for their expertise in manufacturing and distributing finished medical goods.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The amendments to the Social Security Act contained in section 4022 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Public Law 105–33) established the

Medicare Payment Advisory Commission to replace the Physician Payment Review Commission and the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission.

(2) The Medicare Payment Advisory Commission is required to submit an annual report to Congress containing an examination of issues and policy recommendations that affect the medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.).

(3) The medicare program has struggled to keep up with the latest technologies and medical supply products, even if such technologies and products prove to be cost-effective.

(4) The ability to keep up with such technologies and products requires—

(A) analysis of both the cost and quality of various products; and

(B) constant review of medical developments.

(5) The Medicare Payment Advisory Commission has broad authority and includes the ability to review and make recommendations on procurement reimbursement and reform issues, including the effect, impact, and cost implications of competitive bidding, flexible purchasing, and inherent reason-

ableness on the provision of a full range of effective medical products and services to medicare beneficiaries. However, as of the date of enactment of this Act, the membership of the commission has not included individuals with expertise in manufacturing and distributing finished medical goods.

SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF MEMBERSHIP OF MEDPAC TO 19.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1805(c) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395b–6(c)), as amended by section 5202 of the Tax and Trade Relief Extension Act of 1998 (contained in division J of Public Law 105–277), is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "17" and inserting "19"; and

(2) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting "individuals with national recognition for their expertise in manufacturing and distributing finished medical goods," after "other health professionals,".

(b) INITIAL TERMS OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of staggering the initial terms of members of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission under section 1805(c)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395b–6(c)(3)), the initial terms of the 2 additional mem-

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bers of the Commission provided for by the amendment under subsection (a)(1) are as follows:

(A) One member shall be appointed for 1 year.

(B) One member shall be appointed for 2 years.

(2) COMMENCEMENT OF TERMS.—Such terms shall begin on January 1, 2000.

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